



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 04779 171412Z

46
ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 ID-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00

CODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NIC-01 RSR-01

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/MR

R 171350Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2908
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

REVIEWED BY

DATE

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, TS, AF
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR'S CALL
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN

RECENT

1. IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSING MIDDLE EAST. PERSIAN GULF AND
LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN UNITY (SEE SEPTELS),
EXPRESSED INTEREST IN RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN AFGHANISTAN.

2. IF WE HAD ANY UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION
CONCERNING RECENT COUP IN AFGHANISTAN. HE NOTED THAT ACCORDING
TO HIS INFORMATION IT APPEARED THAT COUP WAS MOTIVATED
PRIMARILY BY INTERNAL CONSIDERATIONS ALTHOUGH NEW REGIME
APPEARED TO "FAVOR" THE SOVIETS. IRAN, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN
EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBLE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT. I
INDICATED THAT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE IT APPEARED THAT COUP
WAS CAUSED BY INTERNAL PRESSURES.
AT SAME TIME I WAS AWARE OF REPORTS OF COUP LEADER DAUD'S
PRO-SOVIET BIAS. IN ANY EVENT, USG IS RESERVING ITS OPINION

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 04779, 171412Z

WHILE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY.

3. THIS WAS CORRECT WAY TO PROCEED IN VIEW OF PAUCITY OF INFORMATION COMING OUT OF AFGHANISTAN AT THIS TIME. HE CONTINUED THAT IF ONE WERE TO JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS ABOUT POSSIBLE SOVIET INVOLVEMENT, THIS MIGHT UNWITTINGLY HELP THE SOVIETS BY CHARACTERIZING NEW REGIME AS PRO-SOVIET WHEN IT ACTUALLY IS NOT.

 THIS IS A SERIOUS DEVELOPMENT, ONE WHICH IS DISQUIETING SMALLER STATES WHICH HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED TO USG AND FREE WORLD FOR SUPPORT.
SEELYE

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